



Robert Amezcua

April 26, 1951 - July 20, 2016

Robert Amezcua, age 65, of Austin, Texas, passed away July 20, 2016, after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. Robert was a beloved husband, father and grandfather. He was born April 26, 1951, in El Paso, Texas, to Ramon Guillermo Amezcua and Josephine (Lyon) Amezcua.

Robert grew up in El Paso and graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso with a degree in engineering. He met the love of his life, Debbie, during their freshman year at UTEP.

Robert began his 35-year career at IBM in 1973 and rose to Senior Vice President before retiring in 2008. During his accomplished career, Robert took pride in the lifelong friendships he formed with his colleagues while living and working in Austin; New City, N.Y.; Lexington, Ky.; and Cary, N.C.

In retirement, Robert became President and CEO of his own company, Amezcua Global Enterprises (AGE), which focused on his favorite pastimes of fishing, golfing, horse racing, travel and consulting. Robert enjoyed traveling the world with his beautiful wife and family. He was an avid fisherman and took yearly trips with his son and friends to exotic fishing locations. Robert and his son also fulfilled a lifelong dream of owning a racehorse, Exclusive Wildcat, who raced at Churchill Downs.

Robert sat on the board of Great Minds in STEM (GMiS). His commitment to this organization, to excellence, and to the Hispanic community will be remembered.

Robert is survived by his loving wife of 43 years, Debbie Dow Amezcua of Austin; son, Rob Amezcua, and wife, Julianne, of Frisco, Texas; daughters, Cathy Amezcua Nikrooz and husband, Reza, of Charlotte, N.C., and Jenny Amezcua Barber and husband, David, of Frisco; and sister, Melissa Amezcua. Robert was lovingly known as “Boo” by his grandchildren, Ally, Maddie, Mia, Will, Jake, Sophia and soon-to-be-born Baby Girl Barber.

Robert's family was the greatest joy of his life, and he worked hard to provide them with experiences and memories that will last a lifetime.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 28, at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 8000 Eldorado Parkway, Frisco 75033. The family will be receiving guests for a Celebration of Life and Luncheon immediately following the service at Stonebriar Country Club, 5050 Country Club Dr., Frisco, TX 75034. Memorial contributions to honor Robert's life can be made to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, The V Foundation for Cancer Research or the Robert Amezcua Memorial Fund, c/o Great Minds in STEM, 602 Monterey Pass Rd., Monterey, CA 91754.

Events

JUL **Memorial Mass** 10:30AM

28

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
8000 Eldorado Pkwy, Frisco, TX, US, 75033

JUL **Reception** 11:30AM

28

Stonebriar Country Club
5050 Country Club Dr., Frisco, TX, US, 75034

Comments



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Robert Amezcua.



September 02, 2016 at 05:35 PM



“ One could not have a better friend than Robert. I will miss him until the day I too pass away. Rob said it best "he was amazing".

Steve Oltmanns - August 03, 2016 at 01:57 PM



“ I have only known Robert since 2014, from the time he began helping to ferry Great Minds in STEM's acquisition of MentorNet. After we joined GMiS, Robert took on MentorNet's strategy and he spent many hours painstakingly working with us to clearly articulate every aspect of our little non-profit. It was a tremendous honor, and a heck of a lot of fun, to work with Robert --- his incisive mind, his attention to every detail, his focus on excellence, and his willingness to share his vast experience with us were unexpected and valued gifts. He is already very missed by us all. May his memory be a blessing to his beloved family and all who knew him.
- Mary Fernandez and the MentorNet team

Mary Fernandez - August 02, 2016 at 08:09 AM



“ Robert and I met in 2003 when we made a trip to China and Japan together. Easy to get to know and supportive of IBM to the core. I remember 3 things about this trip, at dinner in China Robert would ask a question about our food we were eating. At least 4 of our hosts would start calling and trying to interrupter the question and get him the answer. After the fifth question I told him he was wearing them out. He got a great laugh out of it. He never exchanged his American currency when he traveled. He made sure I did and therefore I got the tab, he probably got a great laugh out of that as well but never let me know it. And last, what a great gentleman he was. Distinguished and very formal. I never forgot him and am so sorry to hear of his passing. God bless his family and your loss!

Rick Bloyd

Rick Bloyd - August 01, 2016 at 11:55 AM



“ I just received news today of the death of Robert Amezcua. I met him in Austin when he was still in college and an intern at IBM in Austin. He worked with my husband, John Greek. We spent many days at our home with him. What a great guy. My children adored him and he was a great cook! He fed us fabulous meals of stuffed grape leaves, squash, etc etc. I am very sorry to hear of his death. Debbie I am sorry I did not keep up with you and all the Amezcuas after my husband, John died. My deepest sympathies to you and your family. With love, Belia Greek-Nichols

Belia Nichols - July 30, 2016 at 01:04 PM



“ Working for Robert was one of the true highlights of my 30 years with IBM. May you rest in peace and god bless you and your family.

Jim Hynes

Jim Hynes - July 28, 2016 at 07:56 PM



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Michelle Adkins - July 28, 2016 at 04:10 PM



“ I first met Robert in 1982 in the middle of a stressful mission consolidation at IBM. Robert was a model of patience, openness, and respect, which I strove to emulate. His wit and humor was a plus in helping our teams communicate. For the next 10 years we engaged on and off and these traits never changed. He will be missed.

Don Neely - July 28, 2016 at 08:48 AM



“ I had the great pleasure of getting to know Robert when we were both working on the development of IBM's second personal computer. Initially we butted heads over design issues, but soon became great good buddies. Our families dined together, shared events together and enjoyed life in the bluegrass. Recently I was lucky enough to visit with Robert, Debbie & many of his children & grandchildren. His family were angels watching over him. I will carry that memory with me for years to come.

Robert was a great guy, a great engineer and a great friend. He will be missed by so many.

Debbie & kids - my prayers are with you.

Bobbie Yozwiak

Bobbie Yozwiak - July 27, 2016 at 05:19 PM



“ To the Amezcua family: our deepest sympathy. We became friends with Robert when he was a summer intern at IBM in Austin. He enjoyed cooking and introduced us ceviche. He was a good friend and wonderful cook. We posted a picture of him, my wife Sarah and our friend Roy Ewing taken at our apartment when he was cooking Mexican food for about 20 people in the summer of 1970, I believe.

John & Sarah Henderson

John Henderson - July 27, 2016 at 03:52 PM



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John Henderson - July 27, 2016 at 03:41 PM



“ Dear Debbie and Family,

Robert was a joy to be around. His infectious smile and laughter always uplifted the people in his presence. I've admired Robert from when I first met him early in his career in Austin, Texas. He was a 'get it done' type of guy...you always wanted to be on his team, and we all admired his upward bound career at IBM. We were fortunate to know your family and can attest to seeing that BIG smile of Robert's face whenever he talked about his family. Thank you for visiting us on Maui on your last

family trip. May the upcoming Celebrations of Life bring comfort to all in the family knowing that Robert was loved by so many. He will be missed by so many.

He has been a model cancer survivor for many years. His never give up attitude is one that many of us can emulate.

God Bless,

Lois & Lee Reiswig

Lois Reiswig - July 27, 2016 at 01:37 PM



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Joe Cardenas - July 27, 2016 at 10:59 AM



“ Robert, Oscar Venegas and I met around 1960 as classmates at St. Pius X elementary school in El Paso. From there the 3 of us graduated together from Burges HS and then we all graduated as engineers from UTEP. Robert was a "neat" kid who use to share his brown bag lunch with his grade school buddies and who introduced me and other 4th grade classmates to hot chile and jalapeno peppers which were a daily staple in his lunch bag. In high school Robert was one of the first guys to get a really (really) nice car - a canary yellow Pontiac Firebird which he showed off by cruising up and down in front of our high school. We had a few engineering classes together at UTEP since he was an electrical major and Oscar and I were both civil majors, but we could always count on Robert to help us out with Calculus and Diff Equations work. Robert was a genuine friend who never hesitated to help out a buddy or a stranger; perhaps cool and tough on the outside, but with a heart full of giving.

Debbie and kids, Robert's passing will be difficult for all of us but I hope you can take some small comfort in knowing that the qualities that made you love him as a husband and father, I saw in him a long time ago. He was destined to be successful in his career because of his dedication and work ethic; but more importantly, he was destined to wholly love and serve his family.

May God grant him eternal peace.

Joe Cardenas

Joe Cardenas - July 27, 2016 at 11:59 AM



“ Robert was a co-op engineer at IBM Austin when I joined IBM in 1972. We worked together for many years and were first line managers together and later I reported directly to Robert. He was a gifted man and will be missed. Terry and I wish Debbie and the rest of the family all our love. We have a conflict so cannot make it to Frisco but look forward to giving you a hug at the celebration of Robert's life here in Austin in August -- Thomas Arthur

Thomas Arthur - July 27, 2016 at 10:58 AM



“ First and foremost, to the Amezcua family I offer my deepest condolences and abrazos of comfort and love in helping to ease your loss. In this journey of acceptance, I pray that you know he helped clear a path for others to follow, that he set a standard for achievement that one could aspire to, that he held his arms open and wide to his IBM Hispanic community, and that with every sense of his being he stood for "si se puede". It's been said that it's not about what you did, it's about what you did for others -it's called "doing God's work". My intent here is to make sure you know how far his wings spread and the positive impact he had on his extended familia coast to coast and around the world. I saw him as a fearless leader when he had to be and yet a fun, loving, and kind, man. Special to me is a time when he was sharing one of his adventures with my husband that involved his son. Robert was smiling ear to ear and with such pride. That image of that exchange is the ONE image I've never forgotten and that is how I will remember and honor Robert Amezcua. God Bless to all.

Wanda Ronquillo
Tucson, AZ

Wanda Ronquillo - July 27, 2016 at 01:50 AM



“ My condolences to Debbie and the Amezcua family on the recent passing of Robert. I will never forget him. He was a great man and I am truly honored to have worked for him. Robert always used to say "once you work for him, you always work for him" and I was glad for that. Robert did so much for me and my family when he brought us to Austin. He helped me grow my IBM career, operational skills and learn to be a leader. He was a great man, leader, manager, mentor and I know how much his family meant to him. Carole and I send our thoughts and prayers to you all at this time.

Ron and Carole Leadbeater - July 26, 2016 at 11:07 PM



“ Everyone Robert touched is better for the experience. I learned the meaning of courage during the time he was leading the development of IBM's home computer. He had his first encounter with cancer during this time. When others would have stepped aside, Robert raised his game and the game of everyone on the team. He was an inspiration and his sense of humor helped release the tension a moon shot project like this invariably has. He was always leading by example. A man who was not pretentious and always giving encouragement. But was not going to accept anything below his personal standard of excellence. A great family man. Very proud of his family. Debbie, it was a true gift to have been his friend.
Tony

tony santelli - July 26, 2016 at 05:31 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Robert Amezcua.



July 25, 2016 at 12:37 PM



“ The years I've worked with Robert in Austin, TX will always stay as the best years in my memory. His straight and direct communication combined with his competitive nature allowed us to succeed and earn the trust of our clients and the industry. I had the opportunity to tour Australia and New Zealand with Robert, we spent a lot of time together and we share many fond memories from that time. I am deeply saddened to see him go that early, he was so brave and hopeful when we talked in recent months. My condolences to his family and my thanks for having had the opportunity to know him and work with him for almost eight years.

- Erich Baier

Erich Baier - July 25, 2016 at 04:14 AM



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Erich Baier - July 25, 2016 at 03:49 AM



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Erich Baier - July 25, 2016 at 03:48 AM



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Erich Baier - July 25, 2016 at 03:46 AM



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Erich Baier - July 25, 2016 at 03:43 AM



“ Robert was a great man, I've worked with and for him...he was always insightful and fair! A pleasure to be around. I really enjoyed our golfing trips! He will be missed by all! Sally & I offer sincere sympathy to Debbie and his family! Our thoughts and prayers are with you!

Mark Wolstromer - July 24, 2016 at 07:30 PM



“ We send our deepest condolences to the Amezcua Family. You are in our thoughts during this most difficult time.

Peace, love & light,
Ivonne & Juan Delgado



ivonne delgado - July 24, 2016 at 12:47 PM



“ Robert was my mentor, friend, co-worker and boss. Words cannot express my feelings. My condolences to the family. Robert, was the only man I know who could pick out a wrong number on a presentation before you get to it. I often arrived at work between 6:30 and 7:00am. Robert would often same timing me with questions.

Life is a bridge one must cross. In Roberts journey he accomplished so much in his personal, family and professional life. I still utilize skills Robert taught me. In a pass it forward theme, those skills have positively affected my daughters. Roberts legacy will live for generations with others we don't even now know.

don mikalajunas - July 24, 2016 at 09:57 AM



“ My most sincere condolences to the Amezcua Family! I worked with Robert in Austin. His group provided a critical PC offering that allowed us to be competitive in the mid 80's. In the mid 90's while I was living in Singapore, I worked for Robert (living in Raleigh) as we introduced some initial commercial multimedia offerings. I considered him a true professional and a valued friend. Special prayers for him and his family.

Phil Pollacia - July 23, 2016 at 09:19 PM



“ Robert was a kind, thoughtful and generous man. In business he was tough but always fair! Having supported him as an HR Partner I saw his lighter side and we sure had some good laughs over the years!

I'll always remember working on the Austin Cookbook for him and how dedicated he was to making it the best of any site...I loved his competitive nature.

Robert will be greatly missed as he touched so many hearts. Our sincerest thoughts and prayers go out to Debbie and the whole family. God bless you all.

Sincerely,
Carole & John Jannak

Carole Jannak - July 23, 2016 at 07:53 PM



“ Robert was a great guy, a happy warrior at IBM and a pleasant person to be around and work for. My heartfelt condolences to his family.

Michael Hovatter

Michael J. Hovatter - July 23, 2016 at 07:22 PM



“ Our deep sympathy to the Amezcua family on the passing away of your loved one. True comfort comes in knowing that death does not come from God. For He (God), promises to do away with death forever.(Heb 2:14; Isaiah 25:8)

pfl - July 23, 2016 at 06:40 PM



“ Robert was my mentor at IBM for many years. He guided me through 2 promotions and several career challenges. I will always be grateful that he shared his experience with me. He pushed me to strive for more, accept nothing less than success, and continually prepare for the next step. If I accomplished anything in my 22 years with IBM, it was because of his mentorship, and knowing that he believed in me. My deepest sympathies to his family.

Diane Flemming - July 22, 2016 at 10:50 PM



“ My most sincere condolences to the Amezcua Family! He was a great person with a beautiful personality. I loved chatting with him about El Paso, TX!
May the Lord give you all strength as you go through these very difficult days.

Lulu Hammond - July 22, 2016 at 06:37 PM



“ My condolences to Robert's family. He and I started at IBM at the same time and we shared an office for a while. He was a good friend at the time and moved up quickly in his career at IBM. So sorry to see him pass so young.

Richard Eveland - July 22, 2016 at 01:14 PM



“ Richard Eveland is following this tribute.

Richard Eveland - July 22, 2016 at 12:58 PM



“ May God bless your family as you mourn Robert's passing. He left me with some wonderful memories of a friend and colleague, and I will miss him.

Royce Lindsey

Royce Lindsey - July 22, 2016 at 12:17 PM



“ Robert has been a good friend to our family for many years. He is a truly good man and will be missed by many. We love you, Debbie.

Sudan costin

Susan Costin - July 24, 2016 at 03:04 PM



“ We have been friends and neighbors for many years. We have shared some very good times and are thankful for the memories.

Jose & Marilyn Garcia - July 22, 2016 at 10:24 AM